

REMARKS

The disclosure has been reviewed for correctness. In this regard, the paragraph commencing on Page 1 at line 4 and containing reference to a related application has been deleted, such claim of priority to U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/241,806 filed September 10, 2002 and to U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/953,501 filed September 11, 2001 being deleted. In addition, certain other paragraphs in the application have been amended to correct minor errors therein.

Claims 1-7, 12-14, 26 and 27 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Gray (U.S. Patent No. 6,870,089). Claims 8-12 and 23-25 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gray as applied to Claims 1-7, 12-14, 26 and 27 above, and further in view of King et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,586,669). Claims 1-11 and 26-27 have been cancelled, without prejudice for prosecution in continuing or other applications. Reconsideration of the remaining claims is respectfully requested.

Gray discloses a portable storage apparatus, illustrated generally as backpack 400 in FIG. 4, that includes first and second solar panels 401 and 402 integrated as a part of a positional panel 403 coupled to an exterior portion of backpack 400. Backpack 400 further includes a third solar panel 404 is integrated as an exterior portion of backpack 400 and may include a flexible solar panel. Col. 7, lines 19-25.

Amended Claim 12 is patentable by calling for a solar collector for converting light incident thereon into electrical energy, comprising a first substrate, a second substrate and a third substrate, each substrate having a photovoltaic cell formed on a surface thereof, the surfaces of the first, second and third substrates being oriented at angles relative to each other and to a direction of propagation of light incident on the solar collector such that light incident on the solar collector and reflected from the first substrate can be reflected onto the surface of the second and third substrates so as to enhance the efficiency of the solar collector. Gray does not disclose a solar collector of the type called for in Claim 12 in which the surfaces of the first, second and third substrates are oriented at angles relative to each other and to a direction of propagation of light incident on the solar collector such that light incident on the solar collector and reflected from the first substrate can be reflected onto the surface of the second and third substrates so as to enhance the efficiency of the solar collector. As illustrated in FIG. 4 of Gray,

light reflected off the first solar panel 401 of the Gray apparatus does not appear capable of being reflected onto the third solar panel 404 of the Gray apparatus.

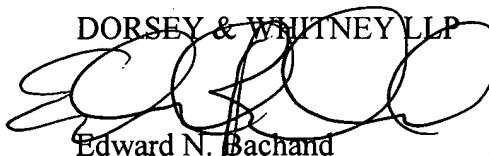
Claims 13-25 depend from Claim 12 and are patentable for the same reasons as Claim 12 and by reason of the additional limitations called for therein.

New independent Claim 28 is different in scope than the claims of record and is patentable by calling for a solar collector comprising a base and a plurality of at least three photovoltaic cells extending upwardly from the base and disposed about and facing a centerline extending upwardly from the base, each of the photovoltaic cells extending away from the centerline as it extends upwardly from the base. Neither Gray nor King et al. disclose the novel combination of new Claim 28.

New Claims 29-43 depend from Claim 28 and are patentable for the same reasons as Claim 28 and by reason of the additional limitations called for therein.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the claims of record are allowable and that the application should be passed to issue. Should the Examiner believe that the application is not in a condition for allowance and that a telephone interview would help further prosecution of this case, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the phone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

DORSEY & WHITNEY LLP

Edward N. Bachand
Reg. No. 37,085

Customer No.: 32,940
555 California Street, Suite 1000
San Francisco, CA 94104-1513
Telephone No.: (650) 857-1717
Facsimile No.: (650) 857-1288
4835-3472-3585\1